SUPPORTING STUDENT CAREER EXPLORATION

Creating opportunities for students to make connections between liberal arts, the workplace, and the world

The LSA Opportunity Hub enables all LSA students to approach graduation with a plan for the next step in their career journey and the ability to pursue it with confidence. From their first days on campus, students come to the Hub to discover ways to pair their classroom learning with hands-on career exploration and make the critical connections that will shape their future. Here students engage in the self-discovery needed to pursue all the options that their LSA degree opens to them. By actively seeking information about careers, exploring the range of paths that are possible, and participating in new experiences, students shift their perspective from undergraduate to professional. The Hub addresses the unique needs of Michigan’s liberal arts students in a variety of necessary ways—from mentoring, coaching, career preparation courses, and workshops to employer engagement, internships, networking with alumni, and other individualized experiences. Because students are able to blend their education with their experiences and career aspirations, they are able to develop and refine their own vision for a purposeful life.

LSA OPPORTUNITY HUB STUDENT JOURNEY FUND

Every student’s journey starts in a different place. For some, the Hub opens doors to career exploration in fields that are entirely unfamiliar to them. For others, the Hub provides funding for internships that seem out of reach. For all LSA students, the Hub serves to guide their exploration of the next steps that a liberal arts and sciences undergrad might take to clarify their post-graduation goals. Students gain access to mentoring, internships, and the connections that will help them build a professional network before graduation. These experiences are not only vital to a student’s self-discovery and decision making, they open doors to career opportunities. The Opportunity Hub Student Journey Fund makes it possible for all students in LSA, from their first year to their graduation, to receive the guidance and opportunities that lead to a meaningful career.

Gifts of all sizes to the Hub Student Journey Fund make it possible for all LSA students to receive the individualized support they need and provides access to experiences both on and off campus that will enable them to journey from career discovery to a fulfilling professional life after graduation. Contributions to the Hub Student Journey Fund build a pooled funding resource that the Hub can draw upon to make it possible for hundreds of LSA students to benefit from Hub programming and services, such as individual career coaching, mentoring opportunities with alumni to explore a variety of professions, workshops that prepare them to engage with potential employers, gaining opportunities for professional experience and more. A gift of $5,000 would support the programming and services used for a typical career journey by a student during one academic year, while $25,000 would ensure access for a student to fully participate in career exploration and development throughout their entire undergraduate experience.

"Alum connections, employer connections, coaching sessions, my studies, and looking at my interests as well—the Hub taught me how to tie all of these things together...it was incredibly impactful, the support that I received from the Hub."
—Julia; LSA ’20
LSA OPPORTUNITY HUB STUDENT INTERNSHIP FUND

The Hub provides resources, support, and guidance for students to navigate their liberal arts and sciences learning with purpose. The Hub is committed to ensuring that all students are able to participate in internship opportunities, regardless of their financial situation. In order to provide this access, funds are needed for Hub internships. Gifts of all sizes help students gain the benefits of professional experience before they graduate to help them make connections and learn valuable skills as they prepare to enter the workplace. A gift of $5,000 could support one student internship, while an endowed gift of $25,000 or more could create a named scholarship that will support annual internships for LSA undergraduates in perpetuity.

LSA OPPORTUNITY HUB INNOVATION FUND

As the Hub continues to grow and evolve, opportunities arise on a regular basis that could help us meet the needs and interests of our students. By leveraging partnerships on our campus or in our alumni community, the Hub can explore innovative, emerging ideas to supplement our dynamic resources and enhance our mission. Gifts of all sizes for the Opportunity Hub Innovation Fund give the assistant dean the flexibility to take advantage of these meaningful opportunities.

WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT

Your gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities change lives. Wills, estate, and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will enable the best and brightest minds to experience a liberal arts education, solve problems in a changing world, and yield ideas and innovations that will make a difference in Michigan and around the globe.

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"Every summer, the question that comes up is: should I get a job that pays the bills or should I do an unpaid internship where I can learn something important to me? And it’s always a hard decision because of the bills that need to be paid. So I’m really grateful for the LSA Internship Scholarship that was gifted to me last summer because it lifted the financial burden off my shoulders. I was able to pay off some of the bills and it allowed me to focus on the learning and exploring aspect of the internship and actually immerse myself in the experience and not worry so much about the financial aspects.”
—Alex; LSA '21